

Instructions for Upcycle Products Brand Rain Barrel Assembly

I would like to once again thank you for purchasing your rain barrel from us. We hope you enjoy the satisfaction of using chlorine free rainwater on your plants and lawn while helping to do your part to conserve our water resources. Too many communities in our area are forced to impose “odd-even” or in the case of our little town “No watering” bans. The cost of water or the electricity to pump it from private wells will only to continue to increase. Your rain barrel will outlast many of those increases.

We believe that you made the best choice by buying our product. We offer a very inexpensive and no frills Rain Barrel. If you want to change or enhance the color of your barrel there are two products we recommend. The first is Ace Hardware brand spray paint, and the second is Krylon brand spray paint. Both do an excellent job on plastic and will not peel for years to come.

If you ever have any questions or would like to share your rain barrel experience please do not hesitate to write us at Sales@Upcycle-Products.com.

Setup Instructions

1. The following instructions will guide you through choosing a location for your barrel and installing your spigot and overflow fitting.
2. Plastic barrels are like plastic bags. When they are empty they tend to relax back to a form similar to when they were first made. Flat spots on the body, dimples, and dents may be evident when empty. However, when you fill them up they will restore themselves to a round condition and will look more uniform in their shape.
3. Choose a spot for your barrel where you can either tap into or modify a downspout to fill your barrel from. There are several rain water diverters on the market that are easily installed into your downspout. Remember the intent of the downspout is to direct water away from the basement and foundation of your home. **DO NOT** redirect water back to the base of the home from the overflow fitting. Connect a hose and direct the water away from the house. We redirected water from our screen porch roof for one set of barrels as shown.



4. Choose a spot for your barrel and place concrete blocks or similar sturdy material to raise your barrel up approximately a foot above the surrounding ground. This will allow you easy access to the spigot with a watering can or bucket. Additionally the elevated barrel will ensure your hose, if used, will flow properly to your flowers. Remember that water seeks it's own level. In other words if the end of your hose is higher than the spigot then the water will not flow out. The concrete blocks will make your barrel a little sturdier also.
5. The black threaded piece is to be installed in the upper hole.
6. Align the fitting square with the hole as shown.



7. The fitting and barrel threads will be tight. We purposely machine the holes and threads to a very tight fit to help the barrel seal more effectively.
8. Tighten the fitting with a wrench as shown.



9. Tighten it till it is flush with the body of the barrel as shown.



10. Next install the spigot into the lower hole. Align the spigot square with the hole as shown. NOTE: the threaded fitting with the white Teflon tape on it is installed into the barrel. The other fitting is for the garden hose. If you ever remove the spigot it is recommended to put Teflon tape on the threads to assist in sealing the spigot to the barrel.
11. The spigot and barrel threads will be tight. We purposely machine the holes and threads to a very tight fit to help the barrel seal more effectively. Tighten it with a wrench until it is also flush with the body of the barrel and is pointing downward as shown.



12. Install the cap into the top of the barrel first. Place the screen on top of it and then thread the ring back on to the barrel. You are now ready to enjoy your rain barrel.
13. If you purchased or want to purchase multiple barrels you can connect the two together from the one barrel's overflow fitting to the spigot of the other. Make sure to open the spigot on the receiving barrel. When the barrel under the downspout becomes full it will just overflow to the next and so on and so on. In some areas of our property we have as many as three of them connected in series. However, there is no limit to how many you can connect together.

Winterizing your Barrel

You do not need to remove the fittings for winter. We use plastic fittings because brass and steel do not interface well with plastic barrels. These items expand and contract at a different rate, which is the major cause of other manufacturer's barrels leaking in a short period of time. The only thing you need to do to prepare for the winter season is to drain all the water out of them, remove any hoses, open the spigot, and remove the cap from the linking fitting. You can leave them standing all winter. Enough water will remain in them to keep them from being blown over and if they do freeze you will end up with a bird bath size ice cube which will not damage your rain barrel.

Enjoy your UpCycle brand Rain Barrel and recommend us to your friends, family, and neighbors.